

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JIM CARSON

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many accomplishments of Jim Carson, the Seguin High School Physical Education Teacher and Head Football Coach.

Coach Carson has been teaching for thirty years, two of which were spent with San Antonio Independent School District as head football coach of the Seguin Matadors. Coach Carson received his Bachelor of Science in Physical Education and Health from Texas Tech University and a Master's degree from Sul Ross State University. Coach Carson has a special place in his heart for his students, and has made a significant impact on them.

Coach Carson says that the most rewarding part of being an educator is working with young people as they grow into productive citizens. He stresses that guiding and tutoring them through crucial years of their development is a responsibility that should not be taken lightly. He expects the coaches who work for him to not only guide each student through their journey but to take an active part and know what is happening in each student's life. Coach Carson says that as part of a sports coaching program, "tutoring, counseling and listening to whatever the young man or woman needs is provided."

Through his initiative, energy, and commitment, Coach Carson proves to be an exemplary teacher and coach, and a blessing to the people in his high school and community in Seguin. I am pleased to have the chance to honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY L. MOORE

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Dorothy L. Moore upon her retirement as Executive Director of the Howard County Community Action Council. A life-long resident of Howard County, Maryland, Dottie has devoted her life to improving our community.

Dottie began her 36-year career with the Community Action Council as a caseworker in 1969. As Executive Director of the agency, she administered an annual budget of \$1.3 million. Dottie was instrumental in developing Howard County's first Senior Programs for African Americans and the first shelter for homeless persons. She also was important in the development of Howard County's first Homeless Care program, Mentoring Program for African-American males, the Family Support Center at Hilltop and Healthy Families Howard County.

One of Dottie's greatest achievements was the 2002 opening of the Dasher Green Head Start Center. Her many community involvements also include serving as chair of the Howard County Human Rights Commission, and, in 2001, she was inducted into the Howard County Women's Hall of Fame.

Dottie has also turned her attention to international concerns. She has been involved in efforts to fight poverty and provide educational opportunities for children in Ghana and Zimbabwe. In 2001, her work was recognized by Ghana when she was crowned Queen Mother of the Bretuo Clan in Asiakwa, where she is spearheading efforts to build a preschool and school.

I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the achievements of Dottie Moore. Her commitment and dedication to our community has been an inspiration to all of us.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MARISELA GALEANA, MER- CER BLUMBERG LEARNING CEN- TER

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many accomplishments of Marisela Galeana, of the Mercer Blumberg Learning Center of Seguin, Texas.

Ms. Galeana teaches Health, Physical Education, Spanish and English as a Second Language to children in grades nine through twelve at the Learning Center. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology and Health from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Through her years of teaching Ms. Galeana finds that her most rewarding experience occurred four years ago when one of her students chose to honor her at the high school HERO's dinner, an annual event where top students and student leaders honor the Seguin ISD employee who has had the most positive effect on his or her life. Ms. Galeana said that she was honored, because she did not realize the influence she had on that student. She has said that to this day she has the medal she received hanging on her rear-view mirror.

Ms. Galeana continues to make a difference for her students, helping to turn them into successful lifelong learners. Marisela Galeana is an exemplary teacher, and a blessing to the people of Seguin. She has an excellent career ahead of her, and I wish her the best of luck.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE AMER- ICAN FORUM FOR GLOBAL EDU- CATION

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, at no time in our nation's history have Americans been more connected to the world than we are now—by trade and finance, media and culture, crisis and conflict. Yet there is mounting evidence that today's young students are ill equipped by our education system to serve themselves, or their country, in the international arena. It's no surprise that Bill Gates recently termed America's high schools as "obsolete" and as relevant as a 1950s mainframe computer.

A recent Gallup poll of 13- to 17-year-olds revealed that less than half could link Napoleon, Churchill and Indira Gandhi to their native countries. One in three could not identify Hitler with Germany. A Stanford University study notes that, while high school attendance broadened to near-universal enrollment over the last century, "students' ignorance of history has marched stolidly in place."

Retired IBM Chairman Lou Gerstner noted this perspective when addressing the National Education Summit: "Countries that have better education systems have stronger economies and are tougher competitors in the worldwide marketplace. America, therefore, is not so much becoming a nation of haves and have-nots as we are a nation of educated and uneducated."

I therefore am pleased to honor one organization dedicated to broadening the international focus of our education system, the American Forum for Global Education, which celebrates its 35th anniversary this year. The American Forum has been working to close the ignorance and apathy gap for hundreds of thousands of K-12 students for more than a generation. They have led the nation in shaping American teaching systems and providing opportunities for worldwide interaction and learning.

The American Forum has developed programs in partnership with the United Nations and the U.S. Departments of State and Education; other programs have dispatched scores of teachers and students to China, Turkey, Morocco, Vietnam and other important but relatively neglected outposts.

The American Forum's China Project is an excellent example of the organization's commitment to promoting a 21st century education. It addresses, in part, a Christian Science Monitor editorial citing Chinese as "a critical language . . . Without an emerging generation of Chinese speakers, the U.S. faces growing holes in intelligence gathering, trade relations, and cultural understanding." Chinese is the mother tongue to 874 million people (compared to 341 million who speak English), but far too few American children study it.

China Project participants are notable exceptions. Vanessa Baehr-Jones, a Tufts University graduate who majored in Chinese, is now looking for a government position to utilize her second-language skills. "Without the (American Forum's) China trip," she writes, "I would never have ended up studying the Chinese language." Patrick Franco, an Oxford University graduate, credits the program with his interest in "a career in diplomacy or business that would offer further exposure to China."

Dozens of other young adults who have benefited from American Forum programs here and in far-flung regions overseas now are benefiting the nation, as well as themselves. For 35 years, the American Forum for Global Education has led the way, and I applaud them.